

The GARZETTE

June, 2001

Volume 11, Issue 6

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From the Oval Office

By Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, GARS President

Hi, Everybody. Hope the world is treating you all well. Y'know, I've gotten a few calls and emails from former club members who were wondering why I hadn't been trying to talk them into rejoining GARS. It's a no-brainer that I'd love to have all of our former members come back to the fold. Rodney King and me, we both plaintively wonder why we can't just "all get along".

Anyway, it occurred to



me that maybe some of our former club members would appreciate a call.... a nudge"... just to let them know that they're missed and we'd love to see them again. Can you think of someone who used to be active but hasn't been around for a while?

Why not take the time to make a phone call and use the personal touch to extend an invitation to come see us again at a club meeting or at Field Day? The loss of any member weakens us as a whole. Maybe together we can turn things around. Rah! Rah! GARS!!

Special congratulations to our own Josh Holmes, W4JDH, who graduated from high school on June 1. All of the very best to you in that big wide future ahead of you, Josh.

(Continued on page 8)



Stan McDonald, KI4H, and his wife Brenda tell about the history of GARS as our club celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

See this month's "On the Air" article by Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM on page 4.

THE GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to N1TOQ@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

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Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:
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All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor

**THE GARZETTE****HOT FREQUENCIES**

By Buddy Menshew, KE4YZS

Buddy Wayne has been promising to share some of the frequencies he's discovered, for a long time. After a promise to buy him a full tank of gas for his truck, he agreed to divulge his secrets. They are as follows:

Fast Food Drive Thru - 154.600
(Make sure that you have a full stomach before monitoring this one!)

Gwinnett School Busses - 155.835
155.025

MARTA Bus - 453.700
453.775

Thanks Buddy!

Programs Coming Up at GARS Meetings

By Bill Ahls, AB0KF

The following presentations will be made at upcoming GARS Meetings:

Date	Meeting Program
21-Jun-01	Field Day Prep by Bob Varone, W4ETN
19-Jul-01	HF Mobile Antennas by Vester Scott, N8EKA
16-Aug-01	Maximize Receiver Effectivity by Larry Scheff, W4QEJ
20-Sep-01	QCWA Introduction by Mary Ahls, w4nzb

Read Larry's two-part article in February and March 2001 QST. He is suggesting a good technique for HF radio. Please email to me questions for Larry's presentation at AB0KF@arrl.net. Did you try or do you use Larry's method of selectivity? It's a very interesting article and worth the read. If you don't have copies of the February and March QST's and you are a member of the ARRL, go to www.arrl.org as they will be posted there. 73

Bill Ahls
AB0KF

Venture Crew Happenings

By *Tim KE2USA*

Venture crew and those associated with Scouting will find this site interesting. There are also some Scouting/radio symbols that could probably be used for web pages and documents. The page is from Florida and is very well produced.

<http://www.scoutradio.org>

The Scout Camp in Manatee County Fl. (Camp Flying Eagle, on the Manatee river) is setting up a permanent station. Their call will be K4BOY. If I receive information regarding the frequencies they will commonly use, I will pass it along. I'm sure that it will be a busy station with all those Scouts at summer camp and no computers, CD players or video games. It's good to see that Scouting continues to ignite that spark of "radio interest" in youth.

STAY CONNECTED!

- Call the nets
- Attend the Meetings
- Use the Email List
- Check the Website



Items for Sale

Have some old gear for sale or are you looking to swap some current radios for different ones?

Send your ads to N1TOQ@arrl.net today!

GARS

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Bill Carter, KG4FXG

Christmas Party Chairman

Open

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

Webmaster

Mike, K4MJK

♦♦♦

On the Air with Stan McDonald, KI4H

By Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM

Stan, one of the founders of GARS was born in Omaha, Georgia. He graduated from South Hall high school. He was stationed in the military in Wichita, Kansas and Smyrna, Tennessee. Basically, he has always been interested in amateur radio, and studied for his test by borrowing books for the written exam and a military surplus punch tape playback machine for CW. A non-ham on the military base gave his test to him where he got his conditional license. He became licensed in 1959 at the age of 19 and got on the air the same year. His first contact was in Michigan on HF. His first Callsign was WN0ATH, then WA0ATH, WA4IZI, KF4DA, and is presently KI4H. He has held the Novice, Conditional, General, Advanced, and Extra classes of license.

His first rig was a DX20 by Heath-kit transmitter and a SX99 Halicrafters receiver. He now has a Kenwood TS-950SAT HF transceiver with Heath Kit SB1000 linear amplifier, base station with an 80 foot tower with an A4 World Ranger which is a 4-element tri-band beam, Kenwood TS450 portable with a G5RV antenna, a mobile VHF rig, and a mobile Kenwood TS50 with a hustler Candelabra arrangement for all bands.

Stan's favorite part of ham radio is meeting people whom he has worked and going to Hamfests, etc. He works just about all bands! (HF, VHF, and UHF.) He primarily works single sideband on HF and FM on VHF and UHF. His favorite band is 20 meter single sideband. An interesting QSO he had was a conversation with a Russian ham, where neither one of them was supposed to be communicating with the other, at the time. As soon as they realized where each other were, they had to end the on going QSO. Stan would like to talk to a ham aboard the space shuttle. Wouldn't we all?

Stan's favorite part of GARS is the people. Since he was a founder of GARS, and the GARS anniversary is coming up, Susan, AF4FO and I thought it would be appropriate to treat you with the story of how GARS was founded if you haven't already heard. The GARS club started out as a repeater group of about five or six hams who put their money together to put up a repeater. The repeater was located in a hospital in Buford and the antenna was on a tower on top of the hospital. Then the club grew to what it is now! Isn't that interesting, for those of you who haven't heard the story before, like me?

Stan's wife, Brenda just tolerates being a ham widow. Stan is blessed with five children: Beverly who is 41, Dale who is 39, Devon at 37, Beth who is 28, and the baby of the family, Rachel who is 26. None of his children are licensed any longer, but Beverly, Beth, and Rachel used have their ham radio license. He has two relatives who are hams, his cousin Bob, WK4T and brother Bennie, AF4DA. Stan worked at Scientific Atlanta for 32 years and is now retired.

One very fun time in amateur radio that Stan will never forget is going to W1AW. Stan has been there several times. If you decide to go to W1AW and operate their equipment, you must have your original amateur radio license with you, not a photocopy! I have never been to W1AW myself, but Stan is the second ham that has told me you must have that with you to operate their station, so don't forget it, if you ever get to go to their station. Wouldn't it be a real bummer if you drove all the way to Connecticut, and realized you forgot your license and aren't allowed to operate? Getting back on track, Stan has also worked W1AW, the ARRL station at a GARS field day. Stan gives this advice to new hams: Relax, enjoy the hobby, and devote time to it regularly.

Thank you to Stan for his patience and time during this interview. He had to take time out of his Saturday to be interviewed. Thank you to all GARS members for being patient with me while I improve my articles each month. 73's until next month.

Editor's Note— On behalf of the readers of the Garzette, I'd like to thank Andrea for the time she spends writing this article each month, as well as the other activities and functions she volunteers for. She is an inspiration to us all!

GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

April Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2001

Submitted by Sharon Carter, KG4HKO

President Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, opened the meeting promptly at 7:30 PM. Introduction of officers Sid, K4SID, vice president; Dan, KF4YSU, treasurer; Bill, AB0KF, activities manager and Sharon, KG4HKO, secretary. Also introduced were membership co-chairs Scott KF4PWI and Andrea KG4IUM.

Introduction of visitors: Christin and Juanita Lovelady, Lacey Diggs, Herb Catania, David Siskind (KE4QLH), Bert Byerley (WV2I), Arnold Solomon (KC4ZUA), and Leonard Batson (KG4CFP). Followed by introduction of members. Total 61 in attendance.

Minutes from last meeting approved.

Treasurer's report by Dan – copies distributed to all. Report accepted.

Sid has gathered information about a possible GARS scholarship program – he will present at July meeting.

Special Events – Memorial Day Parade in Dacula (Memorial Monday), operators needed, see Bill Ahls. ARC Hamfest coming up first Saturday in June, Field Day, 25th Anniversary special event station.

25th Anniversary, June 16 & 17 – notify Susan if operating. Special Events call is W4A. Operators must identify using their own call at least once per hour. All operators must operate within bands where they have privileges, or with a control operator who has privileges for that band.

Club Holiday Party – we should decide on location by June. Suggestion that we go with last year's plan, pot-luck at the church. Marty has agreed to chair the committee again, requesting the same members. Club agreed to this idea.

Dog Show – we currently have enough volunteers to staff the dog show, and GARS will be doing the show. Suggest 50% - 50% split of funds with ARES to help them have income of their own – both groups need the money, and still both are basically the same people. A vote was taken and the plan approved, no opposed. Dates of next Dog Show are Friday August 24, Saturday August 25, and Sunday August 26.

GA Games – David Siskind heading up volunteers, would like commitments from GARS members. Games run Saturday, July 14 to Sunday, July 22 with events in all major metro counties. David needs a total of 100 commitments to work 4-5 hours. Contact David at KE4QLH@QSL.net.

Field Day – Bob, W4ETN is looking for station-masters for 80 m phone/CW, 20 CW, and chair for bonus points. He will meet with chairs after club meeting.

Membership (from Scott and Andrea) – sign in for tonight's meeting. Guest sheet – sign in with Andrea. Updating database, correct names and addresses – especially if not receiving Garzette. New Members voted and approved – KG4MXI, David Herron, and N8EKA, Vester Scott.

Venture Crew will be offering a training class for technician level this summer on the 1st Sunday in June, afternoon. The Crew is also recruiting members in the 14 – 20 age range.

Repeater Manager, Eddie reported that the Goshen Springs antenna is down and will be replaced by a temporary antenna until at least early-mid June.

The Atlanta Radio Club has offered the club a free table at their upcoming Hamfest. Carol and Victor will set up a promotional table. ARC also provided two certificates for free entry to the Hamfest, which will be given to Carol and Victor.

Unsung Hero: always rises to the occasion and pitches in wherever needed, laid back, has chipped in painting repeater sites, conducting inventory, and organizing Garzette distribution (among other contributions) – Dan, KF4YSU.

President Susan Swiderski also recognized another distinguished club member with a spray of roses – Mike, K4HBI, in honor of their coming wedding anniversary (#32). Congratulations, Mike and Susan.

Program – Steve Diggs, W4EPI, satellite communications.

The meeting ended at approximately 9:15 local time.

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House

5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.
Talk In 145.410(-)

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Jefferson Civic Center
Off of Memorial Dr, toward Winder from
Jefferson
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Shoney's Restaurant
Holcomb Bridge Road at grimes Bridge Road
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road
Lilburn
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
Dunwoody
Meeting is at 10:00 AM
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

Third THURSDAY



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church
Gwinnett Drive
Lawrenceville

Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)

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Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

First Sunday

WCARS VEC

2:00 PM

(Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

First Saturday

9:00AM

Clayton County Emergency
Management Building
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

Second Tuesday

7:00PM

Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

CA VEC

8:30 AM

Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Verone, W4ETN
(770)978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC

9:00AM

Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ
(770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7:00 PM

United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770)942-6466.

Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC

7:00 PM

St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road
Lilburn
Headphones Provided!
Howie Gould, W9HG
(770)921-8362

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From the Oval Office

(Continued from page 1)

Congrats also to proud parents Harry, K4HJH, and Susan (no call sign, yet, but we're still working on her, right, Harry)?

Despite the number of adventurous GARS members who made the pilgrimage up to Dayton last month, we still managed to have a good turn-out for our club meeting at the J & A Building. As expected, Steve Diggs, W4EPI, presented a great program on satellite communications, and he managed to ignite the fires of interest in quite a few of us. (Maybe we'll have a whole herd of folks clamoring to make satellite contacts for us at Field Day next year! Hey...! It could happen...!!)

The long-awaited decision regarding the dog shows has been made at last, with an interesting twist. Enough people volunteered to work it, so thanks to all of you, we could make the commitment. However, after some discussion, it was unanimously agreed to split the monies 50-50 with Gwinnett ARES. To me, this is a fair and equitable decision, and I commend all of you. Thanks for your support. (There's ALWAYS room for more volunteers! Dates August 24-26. The more, the merrier.. and the easier.)

The next big happening is our 25th anniversary special event station for June 16 and 17. If you're interested in making some contacts for W4A... your choice of mode and band... just let me know. You can work from the comfort of your own home, or with a bunch of other club members, like a mini-Field Day. As a reminder, while using the special call W4A, you're still required to give your own call sign, or that of the on-site control operator, at least once per hour. I do have some special log sheets you can use for this event, if you'd like. All log sheets get turned in to our QSL manager, Ade, W4ADE. Let's just have FUN with this!!

June is busting out all over, and that means that it's time for fanciful thoughts of... Field Day!! Rain or shine, hot or cold, (Yeah....riiight!) June 23 and 24 is guaranteed to offer up a good time for one and all who venture out to Rhodes Jordan Park to join us in the fun and festivities of this year's Field Day. Whether you can only come for a little while, or if you can stay for the duration, I challenge you to join us for the biggest annual happening in ham radio. Bring your spouses, your kids, your friends... get them "hooked" on radio, too, by getting them on the air to make some contacts. Get to know your fellow club members better.... (y'know, 3 AM chats among a bunch of tired, dirty friends are very laid-back and enjoyable.) As always, volunteers will be needed on Friday evening and Saturday morning to sling antennas, as well as a tear-down crew on Sunday afternoon. Final preparations will be made at our next club meeting on June 21. Come out and.... catch the "fever"!!

As always, our next executive meeting will be the 2nd Monday of the month, June 11th, at No. 1 Super Chinese buffet on Hwy 120 in Lawrenceville.... eat at 6, meet at 7. If you have some ideas for us, or if you want to see what goes on behind the scenes, or if you just want to get out and eat some Chinese food with good friends, you're welcome to join us.

Y'all take care. Hope to see you at our next meeting and at Field Day.
Until next month, this is AF4FO, signing clear. 73

Field Day-2001

“GARS Style”

Lawrenceville, GA USA - The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society will be holding it's annual Field Day Event on June 24th and 25th at the Rohdes-Jordan Park in downtown Lawrenceville. The purpose of Field Day is to simulate what communications could be set up during an emergency or disaster. To make it fun, Field Day is a contest where clubs and individuals from all over set up stations and make as many contacts they can, using as many modes as possible. GARS will be in the 6A class this year with six stations operating.

Have you ever been to a ham event that didn't include food? Bob Verone, W4ETN and Joe Biddle, AD4PZ are coordinating nourishment for us. This year, we will be bringing in catered food to give everyone a chance to operate. Bob is also asking for al attendees to bring some type of dessert to the site. It's been reported that Johnnie Fearon, W4WKP is a chocolate lover so watch out !

We will also need gasoline for the generators and will ask for volunteers to bring a full gas can to the site. 5 gallon cans are fine and please leave the 55 gallon drums at home.

Hope to see y'all there at Field Day. The stations will operate from 2 PM Saturday through 2 PM Sunday. Set-up will begin on Saturday Morning with some dipole placement occurring on Friday night. Stay tuned to the GARS repeater for talk-in and this event is open to hams, non-hams, kosher hams, and Virginia Hams.

LARC Hamfest

The Lanier Amatuer Radio Club will be holding it's annual Hamfest at the Georgia Mountain Center on July 14, 2001 and this year marks a special one for GARS.

We have been asked to set up a “Tech Fest” like table at the fest to display some type of technical aspect of the hobby. We should all feel proud that our Tech Fest is a model for others to follow. The LARC is offering free admission and all the tables we need for those interested in offering their expertise.

How can you participate?

Contact Barry Zoll, N1TOQ at N1TOQ@arrl.net if you'd like to “work” the table. It will be a great opportunity to share your knowledge with others and get a chance to meet some fellow hams.

**GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048

Receive the **Garzette** via email...
contact Scott Hartlage,
KF4PWI@arrl.net



Giving Amateur Radio Spirit!

Visit us on the Web!
www.gars.org

Upcoming Events

*Committee Chairs:
Let's fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!*

June 2001
Executive committee
21st GARS Club Meeting
23th-24th FIELD DAY

July 2001
Executive committee
19th GARS Club Meeting

August 2001
Executive committee
16th GARS Club Meeting

September 2001
Executive committee
20th GARS Club Meeting

October 2001
Executive committee
18th GARS Club Meeting

Meeting Time
&
Location

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Central Baptist
Church,
Gwinnett Drive,
Lawrenceville
Talk in 147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone